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DECLARATION FOR UNITED STATES PATENT APPLICATION,
POWER OF ATTORNEY, DESIGNATION OF CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

Attorney Docket
32325-160414

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name, and that I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled CATALYTIC CONVERTER, ESPECIALLY FOR MOTOR VEHICLES, AND METHOD FOR THE PRODUCTION THEREOF the specification of which

[] is attached hereto.

[] was filed on _____ as Application No. _____
and was amended on _____ [if applicable].

[X] was filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty on October 21, 1998,

Serial No. PCT/EP98/06694, the United States of America being designated.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent, utility model, design or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent, utility model, design or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application(s) on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s)		Priority Claimed	
Number	Country	Date Filed	Yes No
197 53 609.3	Germany	December 3, 1997	✓ X

I hereby appoint the following attorneys to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith: George H. Spencer (Reg. No. 18,038), Robert J. Frank (Reg. No. 19,112), Norman N. Kunitz (Reg. No. 20,586), Gabor J. Kelemen (Reg. No. 21,016), Robert Kinberg (Reg. No. 26,924), John W. Schneller (Reg. No. 26,031), Allen Wood (Reg. No. 28,134), Ashley J. Wells (Reg. No. 29,847), P.O. Box 34385, Washington, D.C. 20043-9998, Telephone: (202) 962-4800, Telefax: (202) 962-8300. Address all correspondence to VENABLE, BAETJER, HOWARD & CIVILETTI, LLP, P.O. Box 34385, Washington, D.C. 20043-9998.

The undersigned hereby authorizes the U.S. attorneys named herein to accept and follow instructions from the undersigned's assignee, if any, and/or, if the undersigned is not a resident of the United States, the undersigned's domestic attorney, patent attorney or patent agent, as to any action to be taken in the Patent and Trademark Office regarding this application without direct communication between the U.S. attorneys and the undersigned. In the event of a change in the person(s) from whom instructions may be taken, the U.S. attorneys named herein will be so notified by the undersigned.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under §1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Signature: W. Stoepler Date: 05/05/00, 2000.

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